

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical write apparatus according to claim 3 An~~  
optical write apparatus comprising:

an image display screen that displays an image, the image display screen including a dimmer layer;

a role switch section for switching the image display screen between a role in displaying an image for observation and a role in writing an image onto an image record medium onto which an image is written upon application of light representing the image by switching the dimmer layer between light dispersion mode and light transmission mode,

wherein the role switch section switches the image display screen between the roles by switching the optical characteristic of the image on the image display screen into different optical characteristic,

wherein the dimmer layer is switched reversibly between light dispersion mode and light transmission mode in response to a control signal, and

the role switch section switches the optical characteristic of the image on the image display screen by switching the dimmer layer between the light dispersion mode and light transmission modes; , further comprising and

a display panel of transmission type for generating an optical pattern responsive to an image signal,

wherein the dimmer layer is disposed on the front of the display panel of transmission type to form the image display ~~screen~~; screen, and

wherein the display panel of transmission type is provided with a backlight for applying directional light from the rear of the display panel of transmission type.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical write apparatus according to claim 3~~An optical write apparatus comprising:

an image display screen that displays an image, the image display screen including a dimmer layer;

a role switch section for switching the image display screen between a role in displaying an image for observation and a role in writing an image onto an image record medium onto which an image is written upon application of light representing the image by switching the dimmer layer between light dispersion mode and light transmission mode,

wherein the role switch section switches the image display screen between the roles by switching the optical characteristic of the image on the image display screen into different optical characteristic,

wherein the dimmer layer is switched reversibly between light dispersion mode and light transmission mode in response to a control signal, and

the role switch section switches the optical characteristic of the image on the image display screen by switching the dimmer layer between the light dispersion mode and light transmission modes; further comprising and

a display panel of transmission type for generating an optical pattern responsive to an image signal,

wherein the dimmer layer is disposed on the front of and away from the display panel of transmission type to form the image display screen; and

wherein a two-dimensional lens array for forming an optical pattern on the display panel of transmission type on the dimmer layer is placed between the display panel of transmission type and the dimmer layer.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical write apparatus according to claim 1 An~~  
optical write apparatus comprising:

an image display screen that displays an image, the image display screen  
including a dimmer layer; and  
a role switch section for switching the image display screen between a role in  
displaying an image for observation and a role in writing an image onto an image record  
medium onto which an image is written upon application of light representing the image by  
switching the dimmer layer between light dispersion mode and light transmission mode,

wherein the role switch section switches the image display screen between the roles by switching one of a position and attitude of at least one of members forming the optical write apparatus into one of a different position and a different attitude.

7-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical write apparatus according to claim 1 An~~  
optical write apparatus comprising:

an image display screen that displays an image, the image display screen  
including a dimmer layer;  
a role switch section for switching the image display screen between a role in  
displaying an image for observation and a role in writing an image onto an image record  
medium onto which an image is written upon application of light representing the image by  
switching the dimmer layer between light dispersion mode and light transmission mode;  
further comprising:

an operation device; and  
a communication section connected to a communication line for making access responsive to operation of the operation device and for receiving an image via the communication line,

wherein the image display screen is switched between the roles as the image received by the communication section is displayed on the image display screen.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The optical write apparatus of claim 1~~ An optical write apparatus comprising:

an image display screen that displays an image, the image display screen including a dimmer layer; and

a role switch section for switching the image display screen between a role in displaying an image for observation and a role in writing an image onto an image record medium onto which an image is written upon application of light representing the image by switching the dimmer layer between light dispersion mode and light transmission mode,

wherein the dimmer layer is divided into a plurality of separately controllable areas.